

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 1. (currently amended) An attachment device for connecting
2 a head and neck support device to a helmet, which
3 comprises:

4 (a) a base having a front surface with an
5 indentation and a back surface with an opening extending
6 therebetween for positioning on the helmet with the back
7 surface of the base adjacent an outer surface of the helmet
8 and the opening of the base aligned with a hole in the
9 helmet;

10 (b) a button having a front surface and a back
11 surface and an opening and positioned in the indentation of
12 the front surface of the base with the back surface
13 adjacent the base and with the opening of the button
14 aligned with the opening of the base wherein when the
15 button is depressed, the button moves into the indentation of
16 the base and the front surface of the button is flush with
17 the front surface of the base adjacent the indentation;

18 (c) a resilient member positioned between the

19 base and the button for biasing the button in a direction
20 away from the base;

21 (d) a post, having opposed first and second ends
22 with a head at the first end, for positioning through the
23 openings of the button and the base and the hole in the
24 helmet so that the second end of the post is adjacent an
25 inner surface of the helmet;

26 (e) a retainer for mounting on the second end of
27 the post adjacent the inner surface of the helmet for
28 securing the post in position in the hole in the helmet;
29 and

30 (f) a catch for connecting to the head and neck
31 support device and having an opening for connecting to the
32 head of the post by positioning the head of the post
33 through the opening.

2. Cancelled

1 3. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein the post has a
2 connector section adjacent the head and wherein the
3 connector section has a size less than the size of the
4 head.

1 4. (original) The device of Claim 3 wherein the connector
2 section has a pair of opposed and parallel flat sections.

1 5. (original) The device of Claim 4 wherein the head has a
2 pair of opposed and parallel flat sections adjacent and
3 parallel to the pair of flat sections of the connector
4 section.

1 6. (original) The device of Claim 4 wherein the head has
2 an indicator line spaced between and parallel to the pair
3 of flat sections of the connector section.

1 7. (previously presented) The device of Claim 4 wherein a
2 width of the connector section between the flat sections is
3 less than a width of the opening of the catch.

1 8. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein the opening of
2 the catch has a first section and a second section, wherein
3 a width of the first section is greater than a width of the
4 second section and greater than a width of the head of the
5 post and wherein the width of the second section is less
6 than the width of the head of the post.

1 9. (original) The device of Claim 8 wherein the post has
2 a connector section adjacent the head, wherein a width of
3 the connector section is less than the width of the head of
4 the post and wherein the width of the connector section is
5 less than the width of the second section of the opening of
6 the catch so that the connector section is able to slide
7 into the second section of the opening of the catch.

1 10. (original) The device of Claim 9 wherein the connector
2 section has a cylindrical shape so that when the connector
3 section is in the second section of the opening of the
4 catch, the catch can rotate around the connector section of
5 the post.

1 11. (original) The device of Claim 8 wherein a channel
2 having parallel sides connects the first section of the
3 opening of the catch to the second section of the opening
4 of the catch, the channel having a width between the sides
5 less than a width of the first section and less than a
6 width of the second section, wherein the post has a
7 connector section adjacent the head, the connector section
8 having a pair of opposed and parallel flat sections, and
9 wherein the width of the channel is greater than a width of
10 the connector section between the flat sections so that the

11 connector section can be moved between the first and second
12 sections of the opening through the channel.

1 12. (original) The device of Claim 11 wherein the
2 connector section has an essentially cylindrical shape with
3 curved sections spaced between the flat sections, wherein
4 a diameter of the connector sections between the curved
5 sections is greater than the width of the connector section
6 between the flat sections and the width of the channel
7 between the sides so that the flat sections of the
8 connector section must be parallel to and spaced between
9 the sides of the channel when the post is moved from the
10 first section to the second section of the opening through
11 the channel.

1 13. (original) The device of Claim 8 wherein the catch has
2 a recess extending around a portion of a perimeter of the
3 second section of the opening, wherein a size of the recess
4 is greater than a size of the head of the post to allow the
5 head to extend into the recess when the post is in the
6 second section of the opening and the catch is connected to
7 the post.

1 14. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein the catch is
2 connected to the head and neck support device by a strap.

1 15. (original) The device of Claim 1 wherein a size of the
2 back surface of the base adjacent the outer surface of the
3 helmet is greater than a size of the hole in the helmet.

1 16. (original) The device of Claim 15 wherein a size of
2 the retainer adjacent the inner surface of the helmet is
3 essentially similar to the size of the back surface of the
4 base adjacent the outer surface of the helmet.

Claims 17-26 (Cancelled)

1 27. (Previously presented) An attachment device for
2 connecting a head and neck support device to a helmet,
3 which comprises:

4 (a) a base, having a front surface and a back
5 surface with an opening extending therebetween, for
6 positioning on the helmet with the back surface of the base
7 adjacent to an outer surface of the helmet and the opening
8 of the base aligned with a hole in the helmet;

9 (b) a button having an opening and positioned
10 adjacent the front surface of the base with the opening of

11 the button aligned with the opening of the base;

12 (c) a resilient member positioned between the
13 front surface of the base and the button for biasing the
14 button in a direction away from the base;

15 (d) a post, having opposed first and second ends
16 with a head at the first end, for positioning through the
17 openings of the button and the base and the hole in the
18 helmet so that the second end of the post is adjacent an
19 inner surface of the helmet;

20 (e) a retainer for mounting on the second end of
21 the post adjacent the inner surface of the helmet for
22 securing the post in position in the hole in the helmet;
23 and

24 (f) a catch for connecting to the head and neck
25 support device and having an opening with a first section
26 and a second section for connecting to the head of the post
27 by positioning the head of the post through the opening
28 wherein a width of the first section is greater than a
29 width of the second section and greater than a width of the
30 head of the post, wherein the width of the second section
31 is less than the width of the head of the post, wherein the
32 catch has a recess extending around a portion of a
33 perimeter of the second section of the opening and wherein
34 a size of the recess is greater than a size of the head of

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35 the post to allow the head to extend into the recess when
36 the post is in the second section of the opening and the
37 catch is connected to the post.

1 28. (New) An attachment device for connecting a head and
2 neck support device to a helmet, which comprises:

3 (a) a base having a front surface and a back
4 surface with an opening extending therebetween for
5 positioning on the helmet with the back surface of the base
6 adjacent an outer surface of the helmet and the opening of
7 the base aligned with a hole in the helmet;

8 (b) a button having an opening and positioned
9 adjacent the front surface of the base with the opening of
10 the button aligned with the opening of the base;

11 (c) a resilient member positioned between the
12 front surface of the base and the button for biasing the
13 button in a direction away from the base;

14 (d) a post having opposed first and second ends
15 with a head having a pair of opposed and parallel flat
16 sections at the first end and having a connector section
17 adjacent the head, wherein the connector section has a size
18 less than a size of the head, the connector section having
19 a pair of opposed and parallel flat sections adjacent and
20 parallel to the pair of flat sections of the head for
21 positioning through the openings of the button and the base
22 and the hole in the helmet so that the second end of the
23 post is adjacent an inner surface of the helmet;

24 (e) a retainer for mounting on the second end

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25 of the post adjacent the inner surface of the helmet for
26 securing the post in position in the hole in the helmet;
27 and

28 (f) a catch for connecting to the head and neck
29 support device and having an opening for connecting to the
30 head of the post by positioning the head of the post
31 through the opening.